

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (original), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claim 8 and CANCEL claims 9-77, in accordance with the following:

1. (original) A defect managing method for a recording medium, comprising:
recording defect management information representing whether replacement or non-replacement, by a linear replacement operation, of a defective unit of the recording medium is required; and
replacing the defective unit by a replacement unit in a spare area of the recording medium if the recorded defect management information indicates that a defective unit requires replacement by linear replacement, and not replacing the defective unit even if the defective unit was previously designated for linear replacement if the defect management information indicates that the defective unit is not to be replaced by linear replacement.
2. (original) The defect managing method as claimed in claim 1, wherein information representing use or non-use of linear replacement for the recording medium is recorded in a reserved area of a disc certification flag in a defect definition structure (DDS) area of the recording medium, according to a DVD-RAM specification.
3. (original) The defect managing method as claimed in claim 1, wherein information representing use or non-use of linear replacement for a specific area of the recording medium is recorded in a reserved area of a group certification flag in a defect definition structure (DDS) area of the recording medium, according to a DVD-RAM specification.
4. (original) The defect managing method as claimed in claim 2, wherein information representing use or non-use of linear replacement for a specific area of the recording medium is recorded in a reserved area of a group certification flag in a defect definition structure (DDS) area of the recording medium, according to a DVD-RAM specification.

5. (original) The defect managing method as claimed in claim 1, wherein information representing use or non-use of linear replacement is recorded upon initialization of the recording medium.

6. (original) The defect managing method as claimed in claim 2, wherein information representing use or non-use of linear replacement is recorded upon initialization of the recording medium.

7. (original) The defect managing method as claimed in claim 3, wherein information representing use or non-use of linear replacement is recorded upon initialization of the recording medium.

8. (currently amended) The defect managing method as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein information representing use or non-use of linear replacement is recorded prior to real time data being recorded on the recording medium~~ wherein the information representing replacement and/or non-replacement of the defective unit includes positions of the defective unit and a corresponding replacement block.

9 - 77 (CANCELED)